



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
MILITARY LIAISON COMMITTEE

P. O. BOX 1814
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

1973

Dear Mr. Strauss:

The Department of the Navy has an urgent requirement for public disclosure of its atomic depth charge capability.

The Department of Defense has determined that the inclosed proposed release does not contain Restricted Data. However, the release does contain information by which the depth charge may be related to the WIGWAM TEST. The Joint AEC-DOD Classification Guide states that no public releases or statements are to be made without the specific approval of the AEC and the DOD.

Further, the release contains information regarding nuclear weapons not previously made public officially thereby coming under the purview of NSC Action 1360 which requires advance check with the Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, who will coordinate such releases with the Director of Central Intelligence and the Operations Coordinating Board.

It is requested that the Atomic Energy Commission concur in the inclosed release and accomplish the necessary coordination with the Director of Central Intelligence and the Operations Coordinating Board.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert B. Loper
Chairman

1 Inclosure
Proposed Release on
Atomic Depth Charge

Honorable Lewis L. Strauss
Chairman
U. S. Atomic Energy Commission

CONFIDENTIAL

The Navy Department announced today that the anti-submarine weapon "which will revolutionize anti-submarine warfare", as referred to in the published testimony of Secretary of the Navy Thomas before the Symington Subcommittee hearings last June, and mentioned by Secretary Thomas while on the West Coast last week, is a weapons system which includes an atomic depth charge. A device was exploded last year off the coast of California to test the principles of such a weapon.

15 OCT 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : Proposed Navy Announcement of Atomic
Depth Charge

1. In accordance with the provisions of NSC Action 1360, the Atomic Energy Commission is requesting DCI concurrence in a public announcement of the above device.

2. O/SI has no objection to this announcement.



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Acting Assistant Director
Scientific Intelligence

Enclosure:

Ltr Gen. Loper to Strauss

cc: DD/I
DDCI

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SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM			
UNCLASSIFIED		CONFIDENTIAL	
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP			
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2	<i>EK</i>	<i>EL</i>	10/18/56
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FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.			DATE
Acting AD/SI			15 Oct. 56